

Ft Monroe- Ghost Story

November 2005

Anchor:

Fort Monroe, Virginia, built on “Old Point Comfort” in the early 1800’s, has the reputation of being one of the most haunted locations on the East coast.

Correspondent Jesse McGill, takes us to “Ghost Alley” to see what’s stomping on this old hallowed ground.

Jane Polonsky/ Local Author: [Audio only]

"They say people come back, who have died a violent death. Or who have not had things settled for them when they did die".

[Bells Ring]

Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate states was imprisoned at Fort Monroe for 2 years, spending his first 5 months in a lonely, cold jail cell.

[Bells Ring]

Chief Black Hawk, after being captured and brought back east, spent six weeks as a prisoner at Old Point Comfort and it is said that his cries can still be heard around the hallowed halls.

And probably the most famous spirit supposedly lurking on post ...

[Bells Ring]

Edgar Allan Poe.

Jane Polonsky/ Local Author:

"Edgar Allan Poe...he read poetry to his young lady friend on the veranda at the Chamberlain Hotel. And he was stationed inside the moat here, in the barracks just beyond where my house is. We used to think he had left some things here, and come back after died looking for them. But if he did, they are buried underneath the house and nobody's ever going to find them there".

Dennis Mroczkowski/Director, Casemate Museum:

"People have been talking about apparitions out here, for at least a century and half or almost. You know the earliest ones we really know of date at least back to the time of the Civil War."

Jane Polonsky/Local Author:

"Abraham Lincoln was seen in the old quarters number one. He was murdered. He was planning and end to the Civil war; of course it ended by the time he was murdered. He's seen in those quarters".

And there's the "Lady in White" doomed to roam the alley forever looking for her lost love, who was murdered by her husband after having a torrid love affair with another officer.

Dennis Mroczkowski/ Director, Casemate Museum:

“Ever since people have been seeing a lady in white, especially back in the area known that used to be known as Ghost Alley, for well over a century. Great tale...”

Jane Polonsky/ Local Author:

”You ought to go down and look at the Chamberlain Hotel. It’s closed now, but even though it’s closed people still say there sometimes a strange light that’s up on the eighth floor where there’s this young lady that’s waiting for her father to come home”.

Today might even be the day you see something... if the sun is just right, and ships happen to be coming through the Chesapeake Bay, look closely at the window, today might, just might, be your day...

From Fort Monroe, Virginia I’m Jesse McGill